

# Ask Amy

## Your Insight Into The TBI Fund

Dear Amy,

I would like to apply for the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund, but I'm not sure if my diagnosis qualifies as a traumatic brain injury. Does it have to be from something like a car accident?

- Lillian in Ewing

Dear Lillian,

The short answer to your question is: no, it does not have to be the result of a trauma to the head. Here's the long answer:

To qualify for the TBI Fund, a brain injury can be due to head trauma, but it also includes stroke, aneurysm rupture, anoxic brain injury (due to lack of oxygen to the brain), and injury incurred as a result of tumor removal or radiation and/or chemotherapy.

There are also certain types of disabilities that the TBI Fund does not include in the definition of brain injury. These include developmental disabilities (like cerebral palsy and spina bifida), injury incurred as a result of birth trauma, and any degenerative disorder (like multiple sclerosis or Alzheimer's disease).

If you aren't sure whether or not your diagnosis qualifies as a brain injury for Fund purposes, please call me at 888-285-3036 to discuss your individual case.

- Amy

Amy Soppet is the manager of the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund. She is a certified social worker who has worked with people who have acquired brain injury for several years. Ms. Soppet has a background in cognitive remediation and disability advocacy.

If you have a question you would like to Ask Amy, please write to her at:

*"Ask Amy"*  
*TBI Fund*  
*Division of Disability Services*  
*P.O. Box 700*  
*Trenton, NJ 08625*

*Ask Amy is a column of:*



A CHARTERED STATE AFFILIATE OF THE BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

SPRING 2006 EDITION